10-31-06

AFON

Docket No.: WLD-002

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Walter J. Leclair

Application No.: 10/766136

Confirmation No.: 1966

Filed: January 27, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: FURCATED BONE SCREW

Examiner: M. C. Hoffman

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1-20 please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 nof this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

Commence